

Message Text

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12

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SAM-01 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SCCT-01 IO-10 /076 W

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R 011235Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7770

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAR ES SALAAM 0921

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TZ, AO, RH, SF

SUBJECT: NYERERE DISCUSSES ANGOLA

1. I WAS PHONED AT 1715 HOURS MONDAY, MARCH 31 TO MEET IMMEDIATELY WITH PRESIDENT NYERERE AT HIS MSASANI RESIDENCE. ONLY OTHER PARTICIPANT WAS BERNARD MUGANDA, DIRECTOR OF EUROPEAN AND WESTERN HEMISPHERE AFFAIRS AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY. NYERERE RAISED SEVERAL SUBJECTS, THE SUBSTANCE OF WHICH WILL BE REPORTED SEPTELS.

2. NYERERE SAID HE IS WORRIED ABOUT "PAPER UNITY" EXISTING IN ANGOLA. THEY ARE HEADING FOR CIVIL WAR, HE SAID. NYERERE THEN BACKED UP TO GIVE HISTORICAL RECAP OF LENGTH OF PROBLEM
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IN ANGOLA. HE SAID MOZAMBIQUE AND GUINEA-BISSAU NO PROBLEM

BECAUSE UNITARY POLITICAL FORCE DOMINATES IN BOTH AREAS. ANGOLA HAS ALWAYS BEEN A PROBLEM. THE OAU APPOINTED A HEAD OF STATE COMMITTEE BEFORE THE RABAT MEETING (CIRCA 1970). NYERERE SAID HE WAS NOT SURE EVEN THEN ABOUT THE PROSPECTS FOR BRINGING UNITY TO THE VARIOUS LIBERATION FORCES. SAID HE HAD KNOWN ROBERTO EVEN BEFORE NETO, BUT THAT HE DEVELOPED HIS EARLY RESPECT FOR NETO AND MPLA BECAUSE "THEY WERE FIGHTING". NYERERE SAID AT THAT TIME NETO WAS FOR UNITY AND THAT MOST AFRICAN HEADS OF STATE WERE PUSHING FOR UNITY IN ANGOLA, AND HE, NYERERE, FOUND HIMSELF TO BE THE "ODD MAN OUT", BEING THE SKEPTIC.

3. NYERERE SAID, HOWEVER, THAT AFTER THE ADDIS MEETING OF 1973 HE BROUGHT NETO AND ROBERTO TO DAR TO TRY TO ENCOURAGE UNITY BUT BY THAT TIME NETO WAS AGAINST IT AND ROBERTO FOR IT. NYERERE SAID THAT IT WAS AT THIS JUNCTURE THAT HE BEGAN TO SUPPORT ROBERTO BY SUPPLYING HIM WITH ARMS AND EQUIPMENT OF TANZANIAN ORIGIN AND SECURING SUPPORT FROM "OTHER SOURCES". BUT IT NEVER WORKED, HE SAID. NYERERE THEN SAID THAT HE AND KAUNDA HAD ATTEMPTED IMPRESS UPON MOBUTU THE DANGERS OF A CIVIL WAR ON THE ZAIREN BORDER, "BUT MOBUTU IS VERY SENSITIVE AND FEELS HE CAN HANDLE ANY PROBLEM". REFLECTIVELY, NYERERE WENT ON, "ONE HAS TO BE VERY CAREFUL WITH MOBUTU. I'M NOT CAREFUL ENOUGH. KAUNDA IS."

4. NYERERE THEN EXCLAIMED, "NETO IS A DAMN FOOL*" TAKEN ABACK, I ASKED THE PRESIDENT TO EXPLAIN HIS STATEMENT, AND NYERERE REFERRED TO THE INCIDENT WHERE NETO WAS ADDRESSING A POLITICAL RALLY AND HAD THE SOVIET FLAG DISPLAYED ON THE ROSTRUM WITH HIM. "I ASKED HIM WHY HE WOULD DO SUCH A FOOLISH THING AND HE REPLIED, 'WE HAVE TO KNOW OUR FRIENDS AND IDENTIFY OUR ENEMIES*'" NYERERE THEN VOICED CONCERN ABOUT USG REACTION TO NETO'S STUPIDITY AND HOPED THE US WOULD UNDERSTAND THAT HE DOES THIS INDEPENDENTLY OF ANYONE ELSE AND CERTAINLY OF THE AFRICAN PRESIDENTS WHO ATTEMPT TO OFFER COUNSEL.

5. NYERERE OFFERED THE FOLLOWING ASSESSMENT OF THE PRESENT LIBERATION FORCES IN ANGOLA:

MPLA/NETO: POLITICAL STRENGTH GOOD, POOR MILITARY STRENGTH
FNLA/ROBERTO: POOR POLITICAL STRENGTH, GOOD MILITARY POTENTIAL.
UNITA SAVIMBI: THE HOPE OF ENLIGHTENED AFRICAN LEADERS AND,
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HOPEFULLY, OF SUFFICIENT BALANCE TO MAKE INDEPENDENCE WORK.

6. NYERERE SAID THAT HE AND KAUNDA LOOKING FORWARD VERY MUCH TO THEIR MEETING 5 APRIL WITH MOBUTU AND THAT THEY WOULD USE EVERY INFLUENCE AND ENERGY TO TRY TO BRING ORDER TO THE CHAOS WHICH EXISTS IN ANGOLA. NYERERE SAID THE US COULD HELP BY UNDERSTANDING THAT HE AND KAUNDA ONLY SEEK A GOOD NATIONALIST GOVERNMENT IN ANGOLA, AN AFRICAN GOVERNMENT AND NOT A PUPPET GOVERNMENT.

"WE DON'T WANT A RADICAL GOVERNMENT BUT ONE THAT WILL PROVE STABLE SO THAT PROGRESS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA CAN PROCEED. IF FORWARD MOVEMENT IS TO CONTINUE IN OUR APPROACHES TO SOUTH AFRICA, IT MUST BE BASED ON STABLE GOVERNMENTS IN MOZAMBIQUE AND ANGOLA."

7. NYERERE THEN WENT ON TO VOLUNTEER THAT HE BELIEVES THAT SOUTH AFRICA IS GENUINE ON RHODESIA AND THAT VORSTER IS READY TO ACCEPT AN AFRICAN GOVERNMENT THERE. "I DON'T BELIEVE THEY WANT TO FIGHT IN RHODESIA,BUT RATHER TO SIMPLY AID IN THE TRANSFER OF POWER." NYERERE BELIEVES THAT THE SOUTH AFRICANS CAN ALSO BE EXPECTED TO MOVE ON NAMIBIA ONCE THE RHODESIAN PROBLEM SEEMS FURTHER ALONG TOWARDS RESOLUTION.
CARTER

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